



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Shana Jones, Special Assistant
Daryl Fields, Public Information Officer
(210) 384-7440

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**BANDERA MAN SENTENCED TO 327 MONTHS IN FEDERAL PRISON
IN PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS CASE**

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced that 35-year-old Michael Sean Meyer was sentenced today to 27 years and 3 months in federal prison for being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm.

In addition to the prison term, United States District Judge Fred Biery ordered that Meyer be placed under supervised release for a period of five years after completing his prison term.

On March 11, 2004, a jury convicted Meyer of the charge which called for a mandatory minimum prison sentence of 15 years. The jury found that on August 17, 2001, Meyer was in possession of a loaded .22 caliber rifle. Testimony revealed that on that day, Meyer assaulted a female with a kitchen knife at her residence. The female's husband later had a confrontation with the defendant. Subsequently, the defendant obtained the rifle and returned to the victim's residence and confronted her husband again. No one was injured in this confrontation. Later that night, Bandera County Sheriff's deputies, acting on a complaint, attempted to interview Meyer at a local convenience store. Meyer fled the scene. Ultimately, authorities apprehended Meyer following a lengthy high-speed chase and foot pursuit through Bandera County.

Meyer's criminal history reflects eight prior felony convictions including three violent felony offense convictions for burglary of a building and two burglaries of a habitation. He has served four different prison terms in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice and was on parole at the time of this offense.

This case was investigated by the Bandera County Sheriff's Office and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Special Assistant United States Attorney Gerald H. Matheny prosecuted this case on behalf of the government.

The prosecution of this case is another example of how the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Texas is carrying out the Department of Justice's gun crime initiative - Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN). Project Safe Neighborhoods is a nationwide federal initiative designed to reduce gun violence in our communities. PSN promotes partnerships among federal, state, and local law enforcement to target criminals in possession of guns. Federal law insures that when an armed criminal is arrested, that individual will face swift criminal prosecution and be exiled from the community through the use of stiff mandatory prison sentences.

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